

SECRETARY WILSON ON PRODUCTIONS OF SOIL

Makes Annual Report to the President on Work of Department of Agriculture for Year Ended November 29

Covers Studies of All Divisions and Makes Many Recommendations of Interest to Commerce.

The annual report of James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture, dated November 29, was today submitted to the President and will be sent to Congress for the use of that body in the enactment of laws and the making of appropriations necessary to carry on its important department of public work.

The Secretary opens his report with a reference to the educational work of the department, which he says has grown in effectiveness since his last annual report. He finds that the demands of many public institutions for men to conduct research in scientific fields and for ability to manage agricultural enterprises encourage young men to take advantage of the opportunities thus afforded. He says the teaching of the science of agriculture and of the sciences relating to it are receiving more attention in the colleges instituted for the purpose, many of which have neglected their full duty in the past.

Continuing, he gives an idea of the importance of new lines of department work, devoting some space to the search of the explorers of the Old World for valuable plants which may be transplanted here. The purpose is to help in the production in this country of everything that soil and climate will permit. A summary of the report, with some of the pertinent expressions of the Secretary, follows:

Department Appropriations.

"The Secretary reports the appropriations for his department for the current fiscal year at \$4,503,960, exclusive of the general printing expenses and of the appropriations for the State agricultural experiment stations.

"The records of the office of the appointment clerk show that on July 1, 1902, the total number of employees in the department was 3,789. Of these, 1,209 were in the administrative class, 2,081 in the scientific class, and 499 were laborers and charwomen. The appointments made on certificate of the Civil Service Commission numbered 305, and there were 108 resignations, 22 removals, and 14 deaths."

Last year \$12,600 was paid in rent for buildings. The annual rentals will now aggregate \$21,700. It would be business policy to erect buildings adequate to future needs.

Forecast warnings of the Weather Bureau have been invaluable in saving life and property. The Secretary urges the desirability of extending the distribution of daily forecasts coextensively with the rural free delivery. He estimates the cost of serving the 10,000 routes existing August 1 at \$100,000.

Progress reported in wireless telegraphy will not yet justify the department in dispensing with its coast telegraph and cable lines.

The value of exports of animals and animal products for the year amounted to \$244,733,062.

There were inspected and admitted from Mexico over 65,000 cattle, and fully 6,000 sheep, lambs, and goats. Importations from Canada of cattle numbered only 27,716. We imported from that country 148,313 sheep. The strictest quarantine is maintained at the ports on the sea coast in order to prevent the introduction of animal plagues.

Experimental exports of dairy products have been made to Japan, China, Cuba, and Porto Rico. Results, however, encourage further cultivation of the markets of Japan.

Farm Management.

The Secretary reports the establishment within the Bureau of Plant Industry of an office of farm management. He announces its object as "The bringing together in concrete form of all the facts developed in the Bureau as a whole, sifting the results, and applying them in a practical way where they will do the most good."

The Secretary proposes to send an experienced man to one or more of the most promising foreign markets to study prevailing conditions and to secure and handle experimental shipments, noting all conditions which have a bearing upon the results. If sufficient funds are available, this work will be inaugurated the forthcoming year in a limited way. The losses to sheep owners on the great stock ranges of the Northwest from poisonous plants aggregate annually \$400,000. The study of these poisonous plants has developed an antidote for some of them, not only effective but which can be rapidly applied.

American Tea Growing.

The work on the growing of American tea was continued during the year at Pinehurst, near Summerville, S. C. There are now about one hundred acres in tea gardens. The yield of tea in these gardens last year was about 4,000 pounds and this year will be about 9,000 pounds of marketable tea. A tea farm will be established in Texas, if suitable land and co-operation can be secured.

Plant diseases and methods of checking them, the need of better kinds of cotton and wheat, the inspection of grain, the merits of red clover in America, Porto Rican fruit productions, Guatemalan coffee, the study of questions on pomology, grasses and forest plants, and collections of plants for study; distribution of seeds by members of Congress, introduction of valuable seeds and plants from foreign countries are all matters that were discussed at length by Mr. Wilson.

The usefulness of the Bureau of Soils

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES

Capital of agriculture.....	\$20,000,000,000
Number of farms.....	5,000,740
Number acres in farms.....	841,000,000
Acres improved land.....	415,000,000
Rural population, about.....	40,000,000

Last crop statistics, 1899, show these values:

Indian corn.....	\$828,000,000
Hay and forage.....	484,000,000
Cotton.....	324,000,000
Wheat.....	370,000,000
Oats.....	217,000,000
Slaughtered animals sold for.....	900,000,000
Dairy products, value.....	472,000,000
Poultry and eggs, value.....	281,000,000

which now employs more than a hundred persons, has been greatly extended by co-operation with State institutions.

The War Department will organize a soil survey in the Philippines. The area surveyed and mapped during the fiscal year was over 14,500 square miles, or not far from 10,000,000 acres, making a total surveyed to date of over 14,500,000 acres. This area is distributed in twenty-five States and Territories and in Porto Rico. The total cost per square mile, including preparation of reports, is less than \$3.

Successful Tobacco Raising.

Under the head of tobacco raising, the Secretary tells of the commercial success of the shade grown Sumatra tobacco in the Connecticut valley, and of experiments with this plant in Pennsylvania, New York, and Wisconsin. In Texas and Ohio has been grown a desirable type of filler tobacco, which cannot be distinguished from the imported Cuban leaf when properly fermented. The reclamation of alkali soils has also been taken up by the soil survey bureau, which has been making such extensive land experiments.

The study of the San Jose scale in Japan and China and the importation of its ladybird enemy has been an important feature of the year's work in the division of entomology.

Work under the Lacey act, for the protection and preservation of game, has been continued by the chief of the section of economic ornithology along three principal lines, namely, publication of information on game protection, supervision of the importation of foreign birds and mammals, and co-operation in restricting illegal interstate shipments of game.

Additional field agents have been appointed in the division of statistics with a view to further improving its crop reporting service. This work has proved of so much value to the department that the Secretary announces that it will shortly form the subject of a special report to Congress.

Study of Agriculture.

The functions of the office of experiment stations have been enlarged in several directions. Special efforts have been made to aid the movement to extend agricultural education and research. The Secretary reports the rapid increase during the year in the public interest manifested in the agricultural experiment stations, and also an increase in the number of students in agricultural colleges and schools, a large attendance of farmers' institutes, and the establishment of a number of new institutions for investigations in agriculture established in different States. Over one and one-half million dollars are now annually contributed by the States to the maintenance of the stations.

Statistics of attendance at the land-grant colleges show over 42,000 students enrolled—an increase over the previous year of 7 per cent. The attendance for the four-year course in agriculture increased more than 26 per cent. He states that all over the country farmers are sending their children to public high schools and paying for their tuition.

Farmers' institutes are now held in forty-four States and Territories, including Hawaii. Over 2,300 institutes were held last year. The funds contributed by the different States and Territories to this work amounted to nearly \$200,000, and 7,009 persons attended these institutes.

The Secretary recommends that nutrition investigations be extended through a scientific study of dietaries in public institutions. He tells of the study of irrigation, even to the administration of the laws governing the use of the Nile, saying "the lesson of one of the oldest irrigated countries in the world cannot fail to be of interest and value to one of the youngest."

Extensive Export Trade.

The division of foreign markets has given attention especially to the agricultural export trade to Australia, Canada, and Argentina. The agricultural exports for the fiscal year 1902 amounted to \$860,000,000. This, next to the exceptional record for 1901, is the highest ever reported. The falling off from 1901 was mainly corn and cotton. The decline in these two products aggregated \$85,000,000.

The United States exported last year \$50,000,000 worth of forestry products. Europe was the principal foreign market and the United Kingdom the largest purchaser.

Preliminary work is under way on an exhibit for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, which is designed to be the best ever made by the department. It is to illustrate as nearly as possible the workings of the various bureaus, divisions, and offices of the department, and is prepared by the heads of these offices under the general direction of the Assistant Secretary, Hon. J. H. Brisson, the representative of the department on the Government board. As on former occasions, the President has appointed the Assistant Secretary of this department to be the chairman of the Government board.

PRODUCE DEALER FINED.

J. Frank Robertson, a produce dealer in Center Market, was fined \$50 yesterday by Judge Bundy in the Police Court for violating the weights and measures law.

COMING TO THE THEATERS.

"Night On Broadway," at the Lyceum. Harry Morris' "Night On Broadway" will be the attraction at the Lyceum Theater next week. Mr. Morris, whose thorough knowledge of stagecraft and his ability as an adapter and arranger place him in the front rank of successful producers, as usual has an entirely new offering this season. It is a musical farce, an adaptation from the reigning German success, "Berlin Nach Elf." The dialogue contains a deal of philosophy, and is said to be full of lively humor. The masquerading characters and mistaken identities afford opportunity for an admirable company of farces headed by Mr. Morris as Henry Flieder. There is abundant complication all the time to create a strong impression of dramatic suspense, and to exploit the affluence of feminine beauty and well designed dresses, which heighten the attraction of natural endowments and artificial accomplishments.

Kocian at the Columbia.

The London critics are hard to please, and not at all prone to accept a young artist, unless personally convinced of his greatness. The manner in which Kocian, the young Bohemian violinist, "won out" in American parlance, was therefore all the more noteworthy and gratifying.

The "London Star" said of him: "Of Bach's 'Chaconne' he gave a rendering that was technically of great brilliancy, and it was most justly praised. In the Bohemian 'Fantasia,' of his master, Sevcik, his mastery of the ne plus ultra of daring difficulty deserves to be called marvelous. Kocian's fame as one of the most brilliant exponents of his time is secure."

Kocian bids fair to become as great a favorite in America as he is in England and Continental Europe. He will give a concert here Friday afternoon, December 5.

Columbia—Mrs. Patrick Campbell.

The unusual interest manifested in Mrs. Patrick Campbell's coming engagement at the Columbia Theater is shown in the extraordinary advance demand for seats, the sale thus far being the largest the theater has had this season, and she will have a very distinguished audience to greet her on the opening night. There is a great curiosity to see her in the new play, "The Joy of Living," a translation of Hermann Sudermann's great drama, "Es Lebe das Leben," for it has already obtained a world-wide fame as a distinctive literary achievement, and Mrs. Campbell's production of it is its first presentation in English.

As the Countess Beata, a woman of the world who scorns convention, but who possesses the finer emotions and strong family affection, she has a role strongly suited to the peculiar quality of her genius and is declared to have won a success in it second to none of her other great achievements. She will appear in "The Joy of Living," Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday nights. On Thursday, she will present the new comedy, "Aunt Jeannie," by E. F. Benson, the author of "Dodo." On Friday "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray" will be given. For the Saturday matinee she will appear in her great character of "Magda."

"Sherlock Holmes," at the National.

"Sherlock Holmes," with William Gillette as the great detective, will be the attraction at the New National Theater on Monday night. Much interest attaches to this visit, because it is the first appearance here of William Gillette after his season of eight months at the Lyceum Theater, London, and because Charles Frohman announces that this will be the last time Mr. Gillette will ever be seen here in this role.

"Sherlock Holmes" is widely regarded as one of the most entertaining, indeed thrillingly interesting, plays ever seen on any stage, and is given by Mr. Gillette as a study in realism. It re-creates with dramatic interest, and the attention of the audience brings for a moment lapses. Mr. Gillette brings with him a company which is said to be the strongest he has ever had in support. It is composed of American and English artists, many of whom supported him during his run at the Lyceum Theater, London.

The management of the New National Theater with special attention drawn to the fact that during Mr. Gillette's engagement the curtain will rise at 8 o'clock precisely each evening and at 2 o'clock at the Saturday matinee. After 8:25 o'clock evenings and 2:25 o'clock at the matinee no one will be seated until the end of the first act. This rule has been made because Mr. Gillette insists that his audience shall not be disturbed by a few late-comers.

"Ghosts," at the Columbia.

The first of a series of special matinees of modern plays, to be presented by Miss Mary Shaw and the George Fawcett company at intervals during the winter, will be given at the Columbia Theater next Tuesday afternoon. The company will come to Washington to give this single performance. The play is "Ghosts," by Henrik Ibsen, the hotly discussed Norwegian genius who believes that the theater is something more than a place for idle amusement. "Ghosts" is a powerful tragedy, with a great moral lesson behind it. The story concerns a mother who discovers in her son the same dissipated habits which, twenty years before, shocked her when she detected them in her husband, the boy's father. It is a story of heredity, a story which bears out in every line the moral precept, "the sins of the fathers are visited upon the children." Miss Mary Shaw will appear as Mrs. Alving, the mother. Frederick G. Lewis will be seen as Oswald, the son. The remaining roles have been adequately filled.

De Koven Symphony at the National.

The De Koven Symphony Orchestra, under the leadership of the well-known musician and composer for which it is named, will give its first concert of the season next Tuesday afternoon, December 9, at the New National Theater, at 4:15 o'clock. The program prepared for the occasion is one which should appeal to the musicians and music-lovers of the National Capital in every sense of the word. The orchestra has this year been strengthened and the promises for a thoroughly successful season are many and bright. The soloist for this occasion is Ovide Musin, the brilliant violinist, who has for some time been in Europe, where he has charmed all with his masterly work. This artist has not been heard in Washington for some time and his return will be hailed with delight alike by those who are familiar with his art and those who, while not knowing him, anticipate a musical treat. Mr. E. H. Droop, the business manager of this organization, says the sale of seats is progressing favorably and a large audience is anticipated.

Vaudeville at Chase's.

The spice of life will sprinkle the polite vaudeville at Chase's next week, as the program will enlist the talents of Miss Amelia Summerville, J. K. Murray and Clara Lane, Eugene O'Rourke, Leo Dervalto, Lamar and Gabriel, Queen Lily's Royal Hawaiian Troubadours, Nat LeRoy and Minnie Woodford, and the vivacious motion pictures, "Bluebeard." Miss Summerville will deliver a society monologue that satirizes the humorous points observed in certain fashionable women to be met at an afternoon tea. James K. Murray and Clara Lane will present their condensed version of popular operas. Eugene O'Rourke, who has been so many of the Hoyt comedies, will demonstrate more of his humorous ability in "Parlor A," a ludicrous little affair by Edmund Day. Leo Dervalto will inject sensationalism by his daring spiral ascension. Lamar and Gabriel will introduce the miniature Dockstader and themselves in a happy-go-lucky connection. Queen Lily's Royal Hawaiian Troubadours were prominent features at the Pan-American Exposition, and this is their first appearance in vaudeville, and their final tour on their way to Hawaii. Nat LeRoy and Minnie Woodford, with "A Little Nonsense Now and Then," and the vivacious pictures "Bluebeard" will make a pleasing conclusion. The advance sale indicates that attendance next week will go nearer the high-water mark than ever before this season.

"Robert Emmet," at the Lafayette.

Brandon Tynan, who appears at the Lafayette Theater next week in his own play, "Robert Emmet, the Days of 1802," has been remarkably fortunate in achieving a double success as playwright and star in his first venture.

Three years were spent in historical research and study on the times of Robert Emmet and his associates in the emerald of 1803. Dr. Thomas Addis Emmet, of New York, the grand nephew of the ill-fated Irish leader, on learning of the ambitions of young Tynan, placed at his disposal the enormous amount of data which he had gathered in compiling his history of the Emmet family, and which cost him over \$50,000. The play was finally finished, but it was more difficult to find a manager who would venture his money on a costly production of an unknown author. Luckily, "Robert Emmet" reached the hands of J. Wesley Rosenquest, at whose theater most of the famous Irish successes of the last twenty years have been given. That experienced manager at once saw the possibilities contained in the play, and accepted it for production.

The cost of mounting the piece was enormous. A great star cast was engaged, and the first performance was a success which amazed New York. Brandon Tynan's triumph was great enough to warrant Mr. Rosenquest in offering him a starring contract for a term of years, the offer was accepted, and the manager now has a star who has verified his judgment. "Robert Emmet" will be given here with the same cast and stage accessories seen in the New York production.

"Across the Pacific," at the Academy.

Washington theatergoers are again to see Blaney's military comedy-drama, "Across the Pacific," at the Academy of Music next week. Nearly all of the original company have been retained for this season, and Harry Clay Blaney will again be seen as "Willie Liva," the war correspondent.

"Across the Pacific" is said to be the largest popular priced attraction on the road, fifty-eight people being on the stage at one time. New scenery and effects throughout have been made for the production this season, and the management have spared neither pains nor expense to retain or exceed its former standard—"the best at the price."

Among the company supporting Mr. Blaney are William Desmond, Harry Fenwick, Frank E. McNish, Miss Pearl L. Ford, Francis Desmond, and Kittle Wolfe.

Barlesque at the Empire.

The Empire Theater announces another high-class attraction for next week, a double one—the Glided World Burlesques, with Kraldy's Colossal Ballet, the last named having been recently seen in this city at the Lafayette Theater with the "Around the World" company. Manager Schlessinger puts forth the claim that next week's attraction is the strongest which has this season been offered at the Empire. Besides the ballet, which includes sixteen English dancers, two burlesques will be offered and five excellent vaudeville acts. The company in its entirety numbers forty people, and has met with considerable success in other cities.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE LECTURE.

The Rev. William G. Ewing, of Chicago, who has recently returned from a lecture tour of England and Scotland, will deliver an address on Christian Science in the New National Theater at 3:30 Sunday afternoon.

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